U.S. Application No. 10/599,020 Attorney Docket No. 58767.000017

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims.

## 1 - 15. (Canceled).

- 16. (Currently amended) A catalytic system comprising:
  - (a) a strongly acidic ion-exchange resin polymeric catalyst (1), and
  - (b) a (co)oligomerization additive of general formula (2)

$$R^{1}-E-R^{2}$$
 (2)

wherein:

E represents an element of group 16;

R1 represents a hydrogen or deuterium atom;

 $R^2$  represents a hydrogen or deuterium atom, or a group of formula  $-E_{14}(R_{14})(R^*_{14})(R^*_{14})$ ; wherein:

E<sub>14</sub> is an element of group 14;

R<sub>14</sub>, R'<sub>14</sub> and R''<sub>14</sub> represent, independently, a hydrogen atom; a deuterium atom; or a substituted or non-substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,

wherein said substituent or substituents comprise: halos,

hydroxys, alkyls, alkoxys, cycloalkyls, cycloalkoxys, aryls, aryloxys, carboxys,

alkoxycarbonyls, cycloalkoxycarbonyls and aryloxycarbonyls or mixtures thereof;

for the (co)oligomerization of lactide and/or glycolide by ring opening

wherein the quantity of monomer relative to the quantity of (co)oligomerization additive ranges from 2 to 30 molar equivalents.

## (Canceled).

- 18. (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the quantity of monomer relative to the quantity of (co)oligomerization additive ranges from 4 to 10 molar equivalents.
- (Currently amended) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the polymeric catalyst
   (1)-comprises a styrene and divinylbenzene-based macroreticular resin with sulfonic acid functions.
- (Currently amended) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the polymeric catalyst
   (t) comprises a macroreticular Amberlyst<sup>®</sup> or Dowex<sup>®</sup> resin.
- (Currently amended) The catalytic system of claim 20, wherein the polymeric catalyst
   (+) comprises an Amberlyst<sup>®</sup> resin.
- 22. (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula (2) is such that

E represents an oxygen or sulfur atom;

R1 represents a hydrogen atom;

R2 represents a hydrogen atom or a group of formula -E14(R14)(R'14)(R''14);

wherein E14 is a carbon or silicon atom;

 $R_{14}$ ,  $R^{*}_{14}$ , and  $R^{**}_{14}$  represent, independently, a hydrogen atom, or substituted or non-substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,

wherein said substituent or substituents comprise: halos, alkyls,

cycloalkyls, phenyls, naphthyls, carboxys and alkoxycarbonyls or mixtures thereof.

 (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula (2) is such that

E represents an oxygen atom;

R1 represents a hydrogen atom;

R<sup>2</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a group of formula -E<sub>14</sub>(R<sub>14</sub>)(R'<sub>14</sub>)(R''<sub>14</sub>);

wherein E14 is a carbon atom;

 $R_{14}$ ,  $R^*_{14}$ , and  $R^*_{14}$  represent, independently, a hydrogen atom, or a substituted or non-substituted alkyl radical

wherein said substituent or substituents comprise: alkyls, carboxys, and alkoxycarbonyls, or mixtures thereof.

24. (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula (2) is such that

E represents an oxygen atom;

R1 represents a hydrogen atom;

 $R^2$  represents a hydrogen atom or a group of formula -E  $_{14}(R_{14})(R^{\prime\prime}{}_{14})(R^{\prime\prime}{}_{14})$ 

wherein E14 represents a carbon atom and

 $R_{14}$ ,  $R'_{14}$ , and  $R''_{14}$  represent, independently, a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical.

- (Currently Amended) The catalytic system of claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula (2) comprises-a water or an alcohol.
- (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 25, wherein the alcohol is an aliphatic alcohol.
- (Previously presented) The catalytic system of claim 26, wherein the aliphatic alcohol
  is isopropanol, pentan-1-ol, dodecan-1-ol, or mixtures thereof.
- 28 32. (Withdrawn).